

that mixture of the superabsorbent water-soluble polymer precursor and the binder is promoted.

31. (New) The coating composition of claim 30 wherein the binder is a thermosetting binder selected from the group consisting of a polyester, a polyurethane, an epoxy, latex and combinations thereof.

32. (New) The coating composition of claim 31 wherein the thermosetting binder includes a film-forming polyurethane.

33. (New) The aqueous coating composition of claim 26 wherein the superabsorbent polymer absorbs up to about 400 times its initial dry weight when exposed to an aqueous environment.

34. (New) The aqueous coating composition of claim 26 wherein the binder is a thermosetting binder selected from the group consisting of a polyester, a polyurethane, an epoxy, latex and combinations thereof.

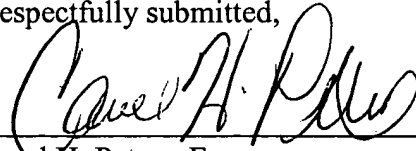
35. (New) The coating composition of claim 34 wherein the thermosetting binder includes a film-forming polyurethane.

Remarks

Applicants submit herewith a listing of all the claims in the present application in response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment. Claims 10, 11 and 25 have been newly cancelled herein as the Applicants Reply and Response filed March 24, 2004 failed to cancel claims 10, 11 and 25 as being directed to a non-elected species. Claims 3, 5, 20, 24, 26 and 27-35 are presently pending with claims 24 and 26 being in independent form.

Based upon the foregoing response, the present application is believed to be in condition for review on the merits, which action is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any questions concerning this response, he is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Carol H. Peters", written over a horizontal line.

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